

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 7, 2009 has been carefully considered. Claims 1, 3, 8, 11 and 12 have been amended. Claims 1-23 are in this application.

Applicant's attorney thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during a June 6, 2009 telephonic interview. The substance of the interview was a discussion of the differences between Burrell and the present invention and the differences between the concavity of the limb support in a different relative direction between Burrell and the present invention. Claims 12 and 13 were noted as being allowable if clarified and claims 8 and 11 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 12 has been amended to include the limitation of the outer limb supports being concave in the vertical plane. Claim 13 depends from claim 12. Claims 8 and 11 were rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claims 8, 11, 12 and 13 are allowable.

The previously presented claims 1-7, 9, 10 and 14-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,692,417 to Burrell. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of the concave limb support being concave in the vertical plane as suggested during the interview with the Examiner. Applicant submits that the Burrell reference does not teach each of the limitations of the amended claims.

Burrell discloses a multi-level portable exercise apparatus having a cross brace including horizontal cross support 130 having end tubes 133. Right angle mid-bars 136 are attached to extend down from the cross support. A frame including vertical supports 110 is attached to the cross support. Handle bar 112 extends from the vertical supports. Hand grips 118 are provided at the ends of the handle bar 112. (Col. 8, line 40 – col. 9, line 15).

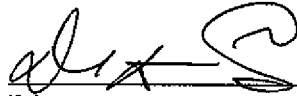
In contrast to the invention defined by the present claims, Burrell does not teach or suggest the invention defined by the present claims including a concave limb support concave in a vertical plane. Rather, Burrell teaches that the cross bar is bent in a horizontal plane. As discussed in the interview, the Burrell configuration does not teach or suggest that the underside of the users knees could rest on the cross bar. Instead, the handgrips extending down from the cross bar in Burrell would obstruct the user to prevent them from being positioned beneath the cross bar. Moreover, the cross bar of Burrell is not disclosed as being a limb support, but rather

the L shaped hand grips 118 are used as the limb support. Accordingly, Burrell does not include all the limitations of the present claims and the invention defined by the present claims is not anticipated by Burrell.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and request that all claims be allowed. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned should he believe that this would expedite prosecution of this application. It is believed that no fee is required. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2165.

Respectfully submitted,

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